

VETS IN SESSION.

Jas. A. Sexton Elected Commander-in-Chief and Philadelphia Next Encampment Site.

WELCOMED BY GOVERNOR AND MAYOR.

The Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Gobin, Delivers His Annual Address and Makes Valuable Suggestions.

Report of the Adjutant General Shows the Membership To Be 805,603—Number of Members Remaining Suspended June 30, 1919, Is 30,608.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 9.—The opening of the thirty-second National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at Music hall, at 10 a. m. Thursday, was the event of supreme interest to the veterans, involving, as it did, the question of admitting soldiers of the American-Spanish war, of the election of new officers and the selection of next year's meeting place.

The civic and industrial and peace parade was the event scheduled for the afternoon. Elaborate and painstaking arrangements assured its success and the protection of the vast crowds that lined the streets.



ALFRED LYTLE, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

The women visitors got down to the more serious business of the convention, the Women's Relief corps. Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic and Daughters of Veterans gathered in solemn convocation. The fireworks will attract hundreds of thousands in the evening.

If you were without the password admission to music hall was denied Thursday morning by some grumpy-looking veteran who acted as guard.

At first none but delegates were admitted. There were about 900 of them. Later O. A. R. men were allowed access to the gallery.

The stage was dressed in draped flags with portraits of Grant, Sheridan and Sherman.

The delegates occupied the soft, plush-cushioned seats, each state being marked with a banner made of a flag, bearing a card showing the state.

The delegates were seated in accordance with priority of age in the G. A. R. The oldest states in point of G. A. R. membership had seats in front. Illinois held the place of honor.

Under the stage in front, while ex-prisoners of war were allotted a space to the right and at the extreme front, Gen. Gobin started the ball rolling at the public meeting and E. R. Moffat started the waves of enthusiasm by presenting to the retiring commander-in-chief a handsome gavel.

The gavel was made of a piece of wood from the doorpost of Gen. Grant's boyhood home.

Speeches were made and then the hall was cleared of outsiders. The outcasts were called in, their work being faithfully done.

The skirmishers for candidates and contesting cities were the last to withdraw, and the grand army began the battle. The programme ordered is to select a national commander and then the city.

At 10:15 Col. J. Milt Blair opened the public balling meeting by introducing Gov. Bushnell. The governor welcomed the veterans, saying he had never offered a welcome more heartily felt.

"Comrades of Ohio, I welcome you to your own; comrades of other states, I welcome you to the grandest commonwealth of the union," said the governor, as he closed his brief address.

Major Tafel welcomed the comrades as the city executive.

Chairman M. E. Ingrassia, of the citizens' committee, spoke gracefully of the committee that provided the week's entertainment. He referred to the promises made by him last year at Buffalo, when the encampment was invited here. When he said the time had come to decide whether they had been fulfilled loud applause rose from all parts of the house.

He reused applause by reference to the present war. He said that at the sentiment that the soldiers of the present war should be part of the G. A. R. He deprecated newspaper exposures of bad management and of soldiers in the present war.

Gen. Gobin's address was full of interest. He opposed the admission of

veterans of the American-Spanish war into the G. A. R. and the return of the confederate flag.

He reports a balance in the G. A. R. treasury. The total number of pieces of mail handled by the G. A. R. officials for the year just ending was 6,966,007. The number of pensioners is 1,040,303. The pensions paid during the year amounted to \$14,651,879.50.

Memorial day was celebrated throughout the nation with more than usual enthusiasm and interest.

"Patriotic teachings in the public schools have progressed favorably. Military drill having been added, it has become a remarkably popular feature in many of the public schools of the land."

"The question of the suspension of comrades for the non-payment of dues still prevails, and it is most difficult to legislate in a manner that will do justice to those who can not afford to pay their dues without doing great injustice to the rest of the organization. It is rapidly reaching those who can afford to pay them but simply neglect to do so. My observation is that a large percentage of the men who are suspended for non-payment of dues are as fully able to pay as a large number of those who remain and continue to pay."

"I confide to you again the important duty to be accomplished in this organization. It is rapidly reaching the sunset, and ere many years it will be a memory—but such a memory of brave men united for love of country and devoted to their fellow-citizens, with all the history of our nation, that will fill the pages of succeeding generations with a record that is imperishable. With our life's work almost completed we can lay aside the mantle of leadership and let the younger men take up the torch and carry on the work we have begun. As soldiers and citizens we have been true to our faith, devoted to our country and flag, and confident in the ability of the American people to govern themselves and defend the world. As we behold the nation that we preserved as a union of all the states, facing new problems and new dangers, we feel that we have done our duty. We have done our duty to the nation that we preserved as a union of all the states, facing new problems and new dangers, we feel that we have done our duty. We have done our duty to the nation that we preserved as a union of all the states, facing new problems and new dangers, we feel that we have done our duty."

The report of the adjutant general, Thomas J. Stewart, contained the following figures as to the membership:

The members in good standing June 30, 1919, numbered 805,603. The gain during the year was, by muster, 10,940; transfer, 4,275; reinstatement, 12,637; from delinquent reports, 4,531; total, 32,383. The losses were, by death, 7,539; dishonorable discharge, 1,100; transfer, 4,471; suspension, 33,033; dishonorable discharge, 143; by delinquent reports, 7,041; by surrender of charter, 1,073; total, 45,336. So the members in good standing June 30, 1919, numbered, 805,603. The number of members remaining suspended at that date was 30,608.

Report received from delinquent reports showed that 8,010 members previously reported as suspended had been dropped from the rolls.

In his report Alfred Lytle, the senior vice commander-in-chief, referred to the visit of Post 12, department of New York, to Hamilton, Ont., saying that the cheers which greeted the comrades on arrival and the reception on the part of the citizens of Hamilton were illustrations of the recent drawing together in sympathy and feeling of the two great English speaking nations.

Gen. Miles at Home.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Maj. Gen. Miles arrived in this city Thursday afternoon. He did not leave his home during the week-end. He was expected to be here all the week-end, but he said he had no intention of doing so Thursday night. He will resume his duties at the headquarters of the army in the war department Friday morning, and will avail himself of an early opportunity to pay his respects to the president.

Movement of Vessels in Pacific Waters.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 9.—It was reported here that the Philadelphia had been ordered to return to this port, and that the Bonington had been ordered to Honolulu in her place. News came from Honolulu Thursday that the Philadelphia left that port for Hilo on August 23.

Shafter Ordered to Washington.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Gen. Shafter has been ordered to report to Washington and will visit the president and the war department. There is no special significance in his being ordered to Washington. The president desires to see him and talk about the Santiago campaign.

Three Workmen Hurt to Death.

New York, Sept. 9.—Three workmen were burned to death in a fire in Max Sitzer & Company's whiskey house at No. 35 Vesey street Thursday afternoon. The fire was started by the explosion of a barrel of spirits of alcohol.

Minnesota Hospital Train.

CAMP POLAND, Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 9.—The hospital train sent out by the state of Minnesota took 41 patients from this camp Thursday night. Private Arthur C. Mickel, Company I, 1st West Virginia regiment, died Thursday in the division hospital.

Bayard Mook Weakens.

BEDHAM, Mass., Sept. 9.—Former Ambassador Bayard passed an uncomfortable day and Thursday night was taken to the hospital. He has been in the hospital since the past 34 hours and is gradually sinking.

monument fund, \$3,771; Sherman monument fund, \$206; Southern memorial fund, \$14.40.

The assets, including the cash on hand are \$11,005, and in addition \$16,000 are invested in United States bonds.

The only candidates nominated for commander-in-chief were Albert D. Shaw, of Watertown, N. Y., and James A. Sexton, of Chicago, Ill.

Commander Page, of Ohio, announced that Isaac F. Mook, of Ohio, had directed him to say that he declined to have his name presented as a candidate, because the senior vice commander was to be chosen from the city where the encampment is held, according to custom.

A delegate from Kansas explained the action of Thomas J. Anderson, of Topeka, Kas., which had been mentioned as a candidate would not be presented to the encampment. The roll of states was then called and the vote was announced, showing the election of James A. Sexton, who received 441 votes, while Albert D. Shaw received 241. Comrade Shaw, in a well-worded speech, moved the unanimous election of Sexton as commander. The motion was carried. Sexton, being called, returned his thanks in very brief form and the encampment immediately adjourned until 9 o'clock Friday day.

The contest among the cities for the next encampment was one of the most exciting of the day's features, and although one ballot settled it very effectively, the various champions of various cities were claiming victory in sight up to the very end. Philadelphia and Denver were the two most prominent aspirants for the honor of entertaining the old soldiers. Chicago had a nice little boom of her own that was used as a lever to secure votes for Sexton as commander. The vote was: OUR NATIONAL GAME.

The Winners Were: Boston, Baltimore, Cleveland, Louisville and Philadelphia.

Results: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000

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